

Appl. No. : 10/036,160
Filed : December 26, 2001

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-21. (Cancelled).

22. (Previously presented) An isolated polypeptide having at least 80% amino acid sequence identity to:

- (a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:45;
- (b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:45, lacking its associated signal peptide;
- (c) the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:45, wherein the extracellular domain is amino acids 77-310; or
- (d) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203966, and wherein said isolated polypeptide has the ability to induce chondrocyte redifferentiation.

23. (Previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 22 having at least 85% amino acid sequence identity to:

- (a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:45;
- (b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:45, lacking its associated signal peptide;
- (c) the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:45, wherein the extracellular domain is amino acids 77-310; or
- (d) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203966; and wherein said isolated polypeptide has the ability to induce chondrocyte redifferentiation.

24. (Previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 22 having at least 90% amino acid sequence identity to:

- (a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:45;
- (b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:45, lacking its associated signal peptide;
- (c) the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:45, wherein the extracellular domain is amino acids 77-310; or

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(d) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203966; and
wherein said isolated polypeptide has the ability to induce chondrocyte redifferentiation.

25. (Previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 22 having at least 95% amino acid sequence identity to:

- (a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:45;
- (b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:45, lacking its associated signal peptide;
- (c) the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:45, wherein the extracellular domain is amino acids 77-310; or
- (d) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203966; and
wherein said isolated polypeptide has the ability to induce chondrocyte redifferentiation.

26. (Previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 22 having at least 99% amino acid sequence identity to:

- (a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:45;
- (b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:45, lacking its associated signal peptide;
- (c) the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:45, wherein the extracellular domain is amino acids 77-310; or
- (d) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203966; and
wherein said isolated polypeptide has the ability to induce chondrocyte redifferentiation.

27. (Previously presented) An isolated polypeptide comprising:

- (a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:45;
- (b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:45, lacking its associated signal peptide;

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(c) the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:45, wherein the extracellular domain is amino acids 77-310; or

(d) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203966.

28. (Previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 27 comprising the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:45.

29. (Previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 27 comprising the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide SEQ ID NO:45, lacking its associated signal peptide.

30. (Previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 27 comprising the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:45, wherein the extracellular domain is amino acids 77-310.

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 27 comprising the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203966.

33. (Previously presented) A chimeric polypeptide comprising a polypeptide according to Claim 22 fused to a heterologous polypeptide.

34. (Currently amended) The chimeric polypeptide of Claim 33, wherein said heterologous polypeptide is ~~an epitope~~ a tag polypeptide or an Fc region of an immunoglobulin.

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DELETION OF INVENTORS

Please correct the inventorship under 37 CFR §1.48(b) by removing the following inventors from the present application:

Dan L. Eaton, James Pan, Timothy L. Stewart, Colin K. Watanabe and Zemin Zhang.